

AIDS lecture November 1, 1987

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The Current Crisis in AIDS

By

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Presented to the

4th Presbyterian Church

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It had been three days since I had spoken to a public audience about AIDS and that occasion was a presentation before the State Department's Advisory Committee on Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs in Washington. From there I went to Atlanta for a celebration of the Smallpox eradication and then presented a lecture to the 45th Annual Conference of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy in Chicago, Illinois. This made it easy to do a presentation on AIDS to 4th Presbyterian Church in Chicago.

Ever since preparing the Surgeon General's Report on Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome at the request of President Reagan, I had met with various religious bodies. I had made it clear I was not only open to speaking to religious groups, but also eager to do so. They were in a position to disseminate the information I was trying to get to the public and in my association with them in the preparation of the Report, I had found them open and cooperative. The first such effort on my part was when Jerry Farwell permitted me to speak not only in his church in Lynchburg, Virginia but also to the entire student body of Liberty University on the 19th of January, 1987.

The title of my lecture was "The Current Crisis in AIDS" and is a title I had used on multiple occasions previously. That doesn't mean that the lectures all had exactly the same content. Back in February of 1987, because of the number of requests, I had to speak and the inability to get to them all, I made a videotape under the title, "The Current Crisis in AIDS" for use by those groups who were willing to have a taped presentation rather than one in person. That was released on February 2, 1987.

The same title was then used for the Pasquariello lecture, Philadelphia (April 8, 1987), Annual Research Dinner, St. Louis, (April 24, 1987), a lecture to the Medical Societies of Berlin, Germany (July 1, 1987), Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri (July 14 1987), the David Packard Lecture at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda (May 28, 1987), and the Delaware Valley College AIDS Symposium, Pennsylvania (June 8, 1987).

Each of these lectures was tempered to the audience in question and each of them has been dealt with specifically in this archive, because they were sufficiently different not to be included under one descriptive introduction.

The lecture to the 4th Presbyterian Church was given because the 4th Presbyterian Church in Chicago is a large metropolitan church with a varied congregation, not only in reference to AIDS, but also ethnicity and economics. It was an ideal church to speak to and that was the reason I chose to do so while I was in Chicago. This lecture is the closest to the one I gave in Berlin, Germany and therefore, I will make no further comment about it, nor will there be an index included.
